



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

Testimony Government Administration and Elections Committee February 22, 2016

Senate Bill No. 16 An Act Increasing Agency Efficiency In the Regulation Process

Senator Cassano, Representative Jutila, and members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, the Insurance Department appreciates the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of ~~raised~~ **Senate Bill No. 16 An Act Increasing Agency Efficiency In the Regulation Process**. Generally, S.B. 16 would amend current statutes to no longer require state Agencies with Department Heads, as defined by C.G.S. § 4-5, to do mandatory regulations if the Department Head deemed them to be unnecessary.

This proposed legislation will create greater efficiencies in state agencies like the Insurance Department and will allow our agency to more effectively use our resources to protect consumers. Removing this requirement and substituting the judgment of the Department Head will cut down on the amount of unnecessary regulations promulgated by agencies while still ensuring an adequate check and balance. This legislation will reduce employee time and budget resources spent writing and promulgating unnecessary regulations.

For these reasons, the Department is pleased to support Governor's Bill No. 16. The Department thanks the Government Administration and Elections Committee Chairs and members for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 16.

About the Connecticut Insurance Department: The mission of the Connecticut Insurance Department is to protect consumers through regulation of the industry, outreach, education and advocacy. The Department recovers an average of more than \$4 million yearly on behalf of consumers and regulates the industry by ensuring carriers adhere to state insurance laws and regulations and are financially solvent to pay claims. The Department's annual budget is funded through assessments from the insurance industry. For every dollar of direct expense, the Department brings in about \$7.45 to the state in revenues. Each year, the Department returns more than \$215 million in assessments, fees and penalties to the state's General Fund.